

DESIGN, ACCESS & HERITAGE STATEMENT

27A BURTON STREET . WC1H 9AQ
29/05/15



INTRODUCTION		p.3
SITE PLAN	dwg. 001	p.4
CONTEXT	HISTORICAL	p.5
	STREET	p.6
	PLANNING	p.7
EXISTING	LAYOUT	p.8
PROPOSED	LAYOUT	p.9
	dwg. 004	p.10
	dwg. 005	p.11
CONSTRUCTION DETAILS		p.12
	dwg. 008	p.13
MATERIALS		p.14
ACCESS + SUSTAINABILITY		p.15

This is a planning and listed building consent application for the addition of a two storey (ground and lower ground floor) extension at 27a Burton Street, together with re-configuration of internal partitions to create a new study at lower ground floor and dining room at ground floor level with excellent natural lighting and improved thermal performance.

This application follows on from previous applications 2015/0893/P and 2015/1240/L, which were withdrawn following consultation with Camden Council planning and conservation officers.

27a Burton Street is a two-storey dwelling occupying the ground and lower ground floors of a five storey building in a Grade 2-listed terrace in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, a densely built-up neighbourhood characterised by some of London's finest examples of late Georgian and Victorian terraces and squares punctuated with some high quality modern development. We recognise the importance of this heritage asset and its significance within Camden's unique historic environment. Our proposal aims to improve the functionality of the existing dwelling while respecting, retaining and enhancing the existing architecture.

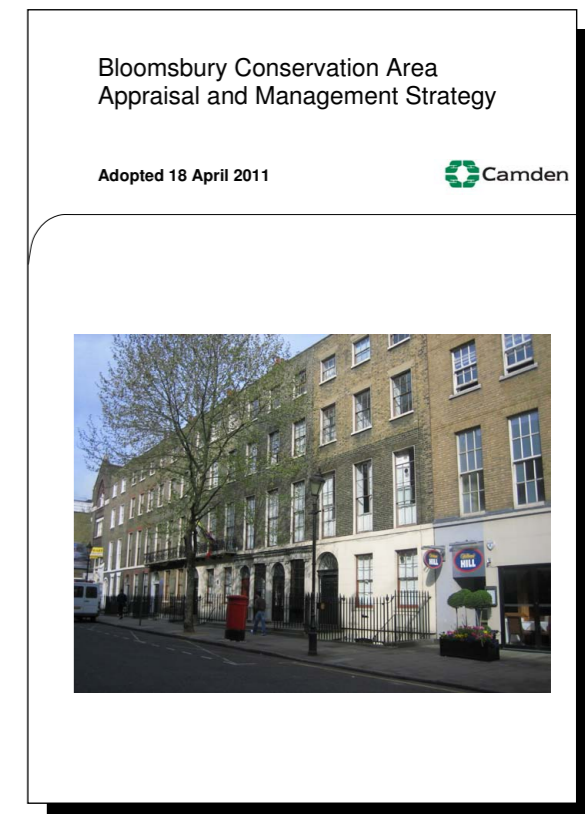
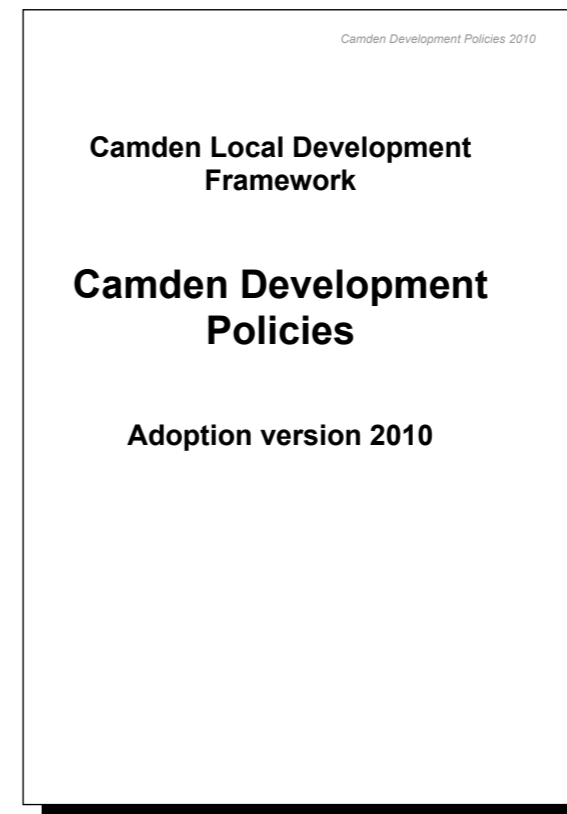
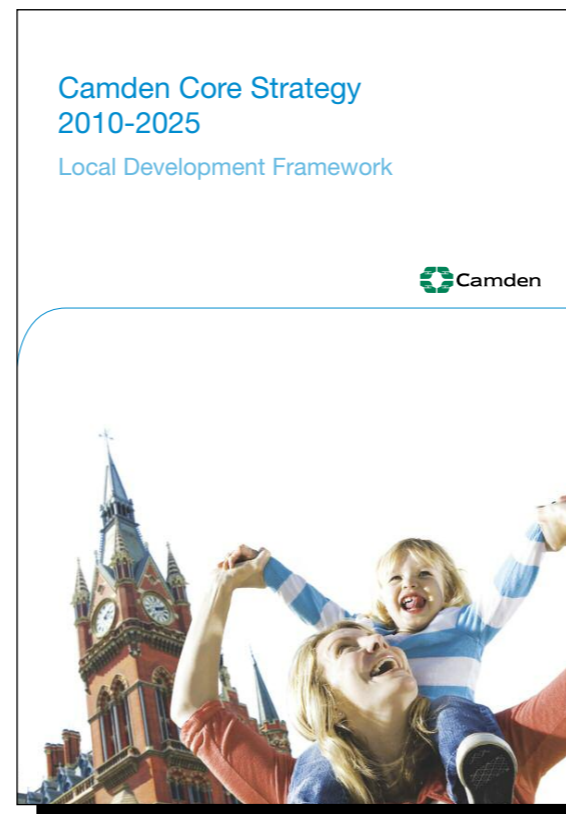
The new extension is conceived to minimize impact on the back yard, a key asset to a flat in a constrained urban location, provide generous and open living space, improved bathrooms suitable for the occupation of a small family, and space for residents to work from home.

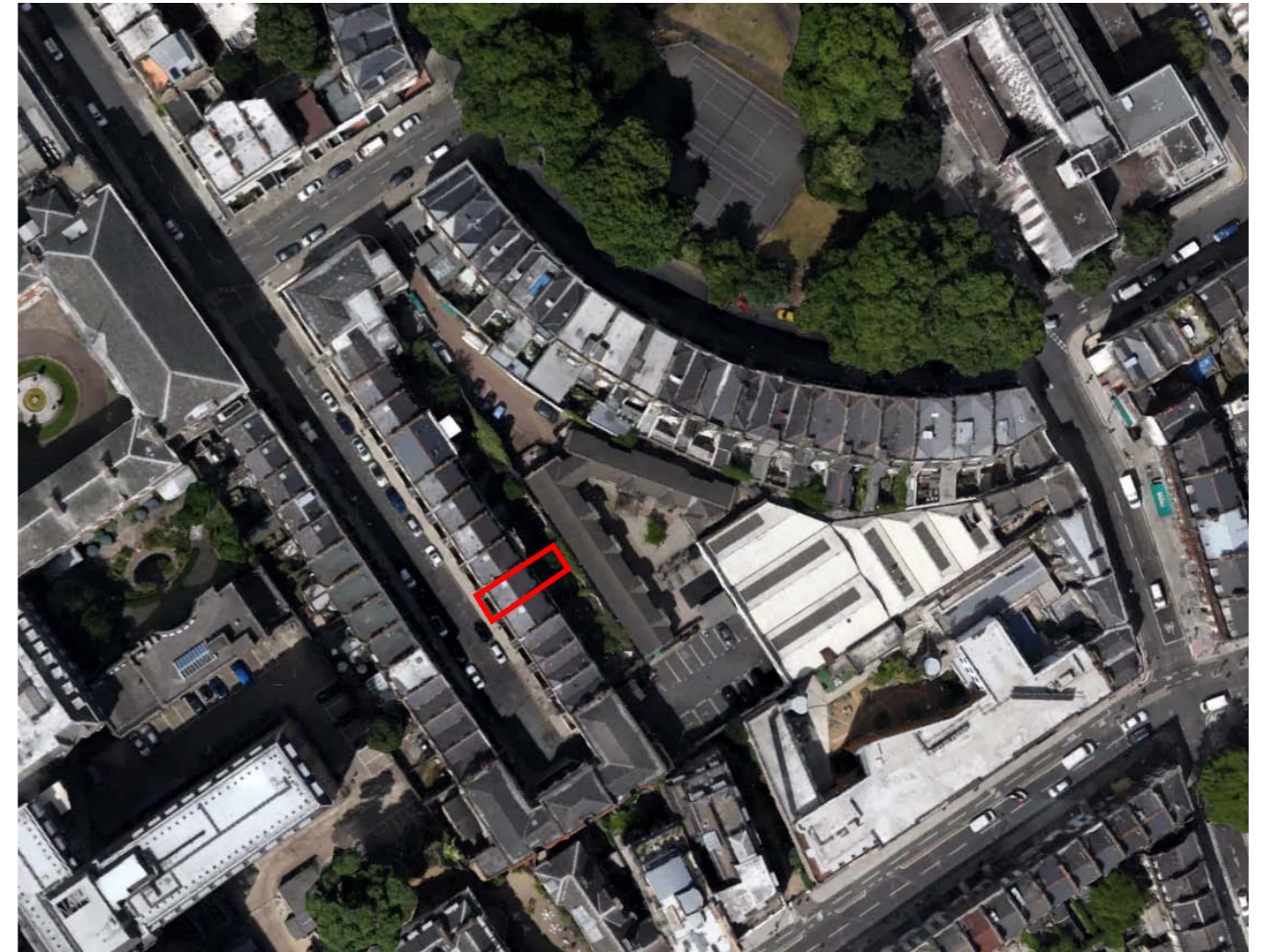
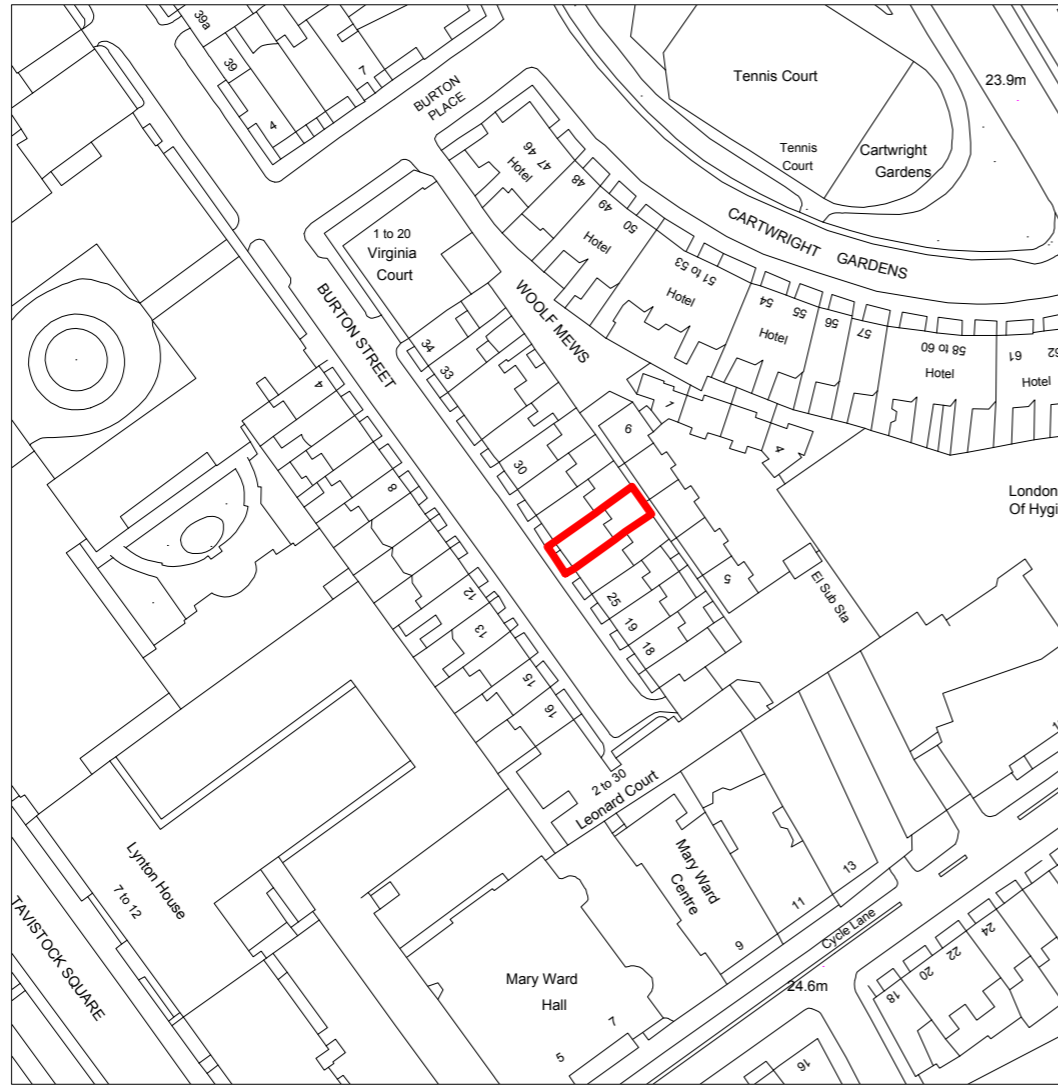
The proposed layout comprises a new two storey volume that extends beyond the main terraced building, located where the lower level patio is currently situated. Internally the proposed development would allow for a larger kitchen/dining area as well as a WC to the ground floor and a study downstairs. An en suite shower room is proposed to the front bedroom at basement level. The existing raised decked patio, currently accessed from the garden or a window from the internal staircase would be rebuilt and access provided from the new dining room extension. The front elevation would remain unchanged, as would the communal entrance to the flat.

The document contains an access, design and heritage statement explaining the rationale behind the design decisions and how they relate to the building's context as well as Camden planning policy. *Texts printed in blue are extracts from the National Planning Policy Framework, PPS 5, the London Plan, Camden's Core Strategy, Development Management Policies, Urban Design Guide, Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Strategy and English Heritage's Listed Building Register.*

'Applications for listed building consent should be fully justified and should demonstrate how proposals would affect the significance of a listed building and why the works or changes are desirable or necessary. In addition to listed building consent, some proposals may also require planning permission. These applications should be submitted together and will be assessed concurrently.'

- 3.24, CPG1 Design





Project Name **27a Burton Street**

Project Number **067**

Drawing Name **Existing site plan**

Drawing Number	001	Revision	-
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Scale **1:1250** Date **12 02 15**

Drawing Status **Planning**

CONTEXT - HISTORICAL



Bloomsbury represents a period of London's early expansion northwards, dating from Stuart times (around 1660), which continued through the Georgian and Regency periods to around 1840. This period of expansion, which followed the Plague in 1665 and the Great Fire of London in 1666, replaced a series of medieval manors on the periphery of London and their associated agricultural and pastoral land.

The first swathe of buildings created a mix of uses with houses, a market, commercial, cultural uses (the British Museum), hospitals and churches. Later expansion of the northern part of the Conservation Area was focused on providing grander residential districts for wealthy families. This was carried out speculatively by a number of builders, on leases from major landowners, and followed a consistent form with terraced townhouses constructed on a formal grid pattern of streets and landscaped squares.

The progression of development across the Conservation Area illustrates the subtle changes in taste and style in domestic architecture that occurred throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Residential use has remained in the comparatively uniform terraces dating from circa 1810-20, which are to be found on either side of Burton Street, named after its architect and builder, James Burton. The terraces consist principally of four-storey houses, although there are some two-storey buildings at the southern end. There is a notable contrast in the transition between the highly enclosed southern end of Burton Street and the open space of Cartwright Gardens.

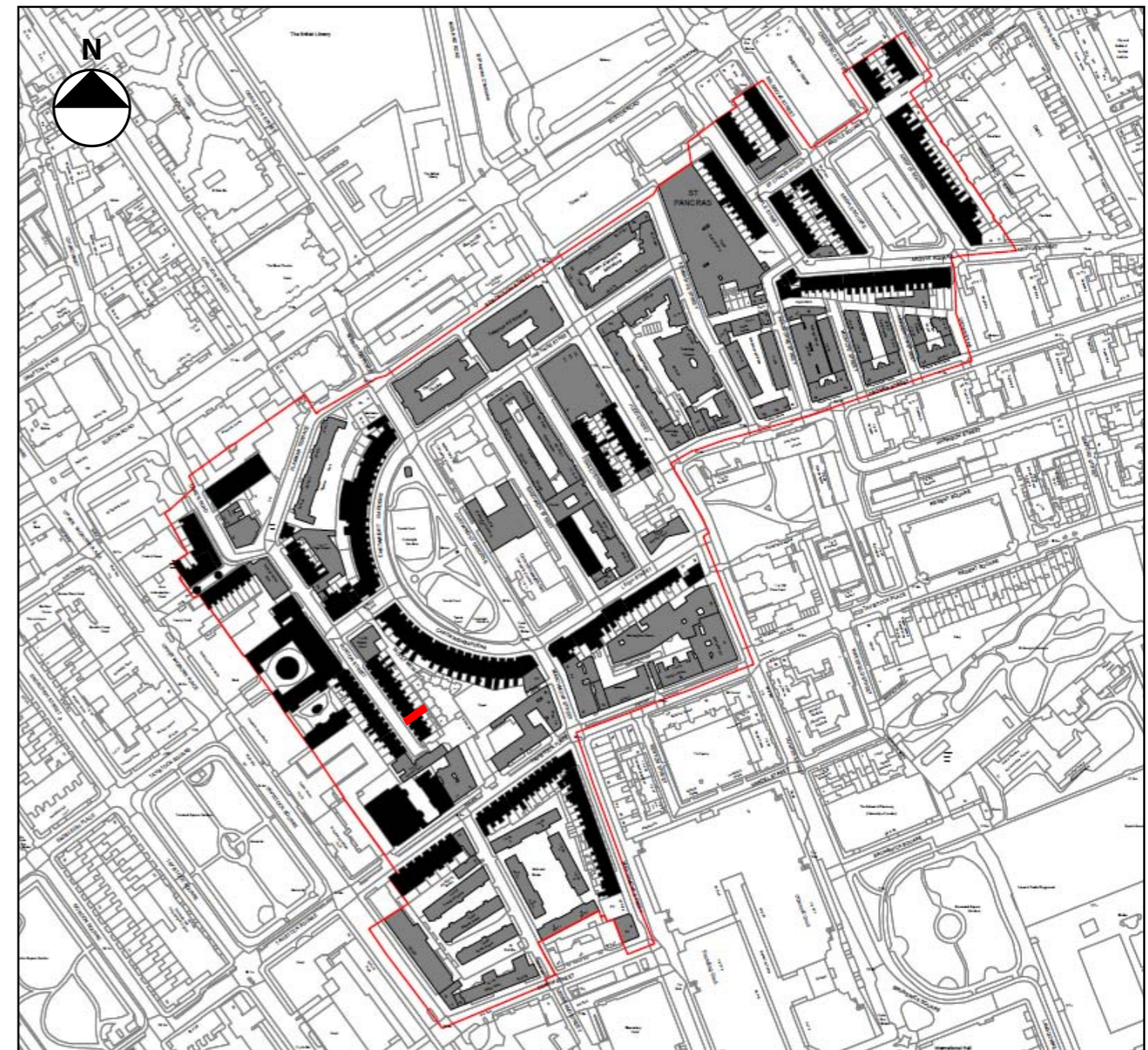
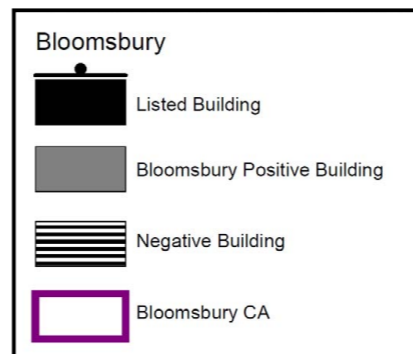
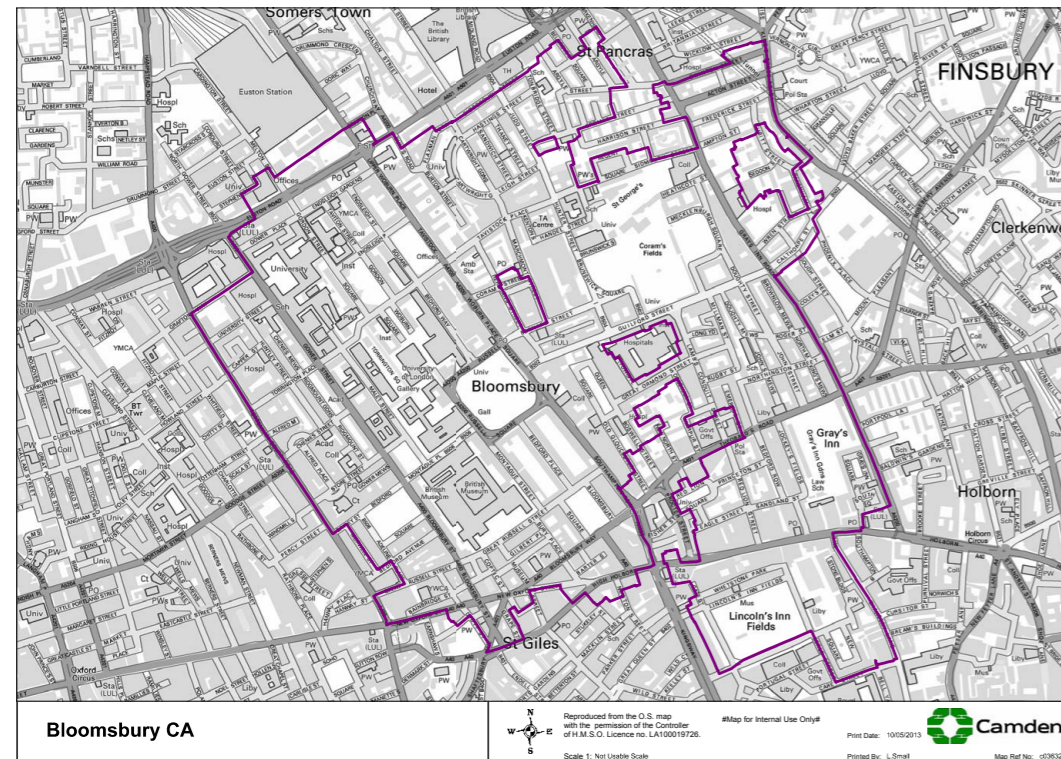
Bloomsbury Conservation Area covers an area of approximately 160 hectares extending from Euston Road in the north to High Holborn and Lincoln's Inn Fields in the south and from Tottenham Court Road in the west to King's Cross Road in the east.

The interest of this sub area 13 where 27a is located derives from the formal early 19th century street pattern and layout of open spaces, and the relatively intact street elevations of surviving terraces of houses. Developed mainly by James Burton, it was one of the later areas of Bloomsbury to be completed, and in its early 19th century parts retains a remarkably uniform streetscape.

There remains a striking consistency and sense of repetition in the townscape, with townhouses of consistent form, plot width, and architectural treatment including detailing and materials (for instance the use of London Stock brick, stucco decoration, timber joinery and slate roofs).

'Bloomsbury is widely considered to be an internationally significant example of town planning. The original street layouts, which employed the concept of formal landscaped squares and an interrelated grid of streets to create an attractive residential environment, remain a dominant characteristic of the area. Despite Bloomsbury's size and varying ownerships, its expansion northwards from roughly 1660 to 1840 has led to a notable consistency in the street pattern, spatial character and predominant building forms.'

- Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy



Camden's map of sub-area 13 within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area

CONTEXT - STREET

27a Burton Street sits within a row of nine Georgian terraced houses from nos. 26-34 which were included under a single listing by English Heritage in 1974:

Location: (East side) Nos.26-34 (Consecutive) and attached railings

Street: Burton Street

Grade: II

Date of listing: May 14 1974

Terrace of 9 houses, converted 1980s mostly into flats. Nos 26-30, c1810-13; Nos 31-34, c1801-13. Designed and built by James Burton.

Yellow stock brick (some later refacing) with stucco ground floors and plain 1st floor sill band. 4 storeys and basements. 2 windows each except No.32 with 4. Round-arched doorways with some pilaster-jamb and cornice-heads, fanlights (No.29 with original patterned fanlight) and panelled doors. Gauged brick flat arches to recessed sash windows, 1st floor with continuous cast-iron balconies. Parapets.

INTERIORS: not inspected.

SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached cast-iron railings with urn finials to areas.

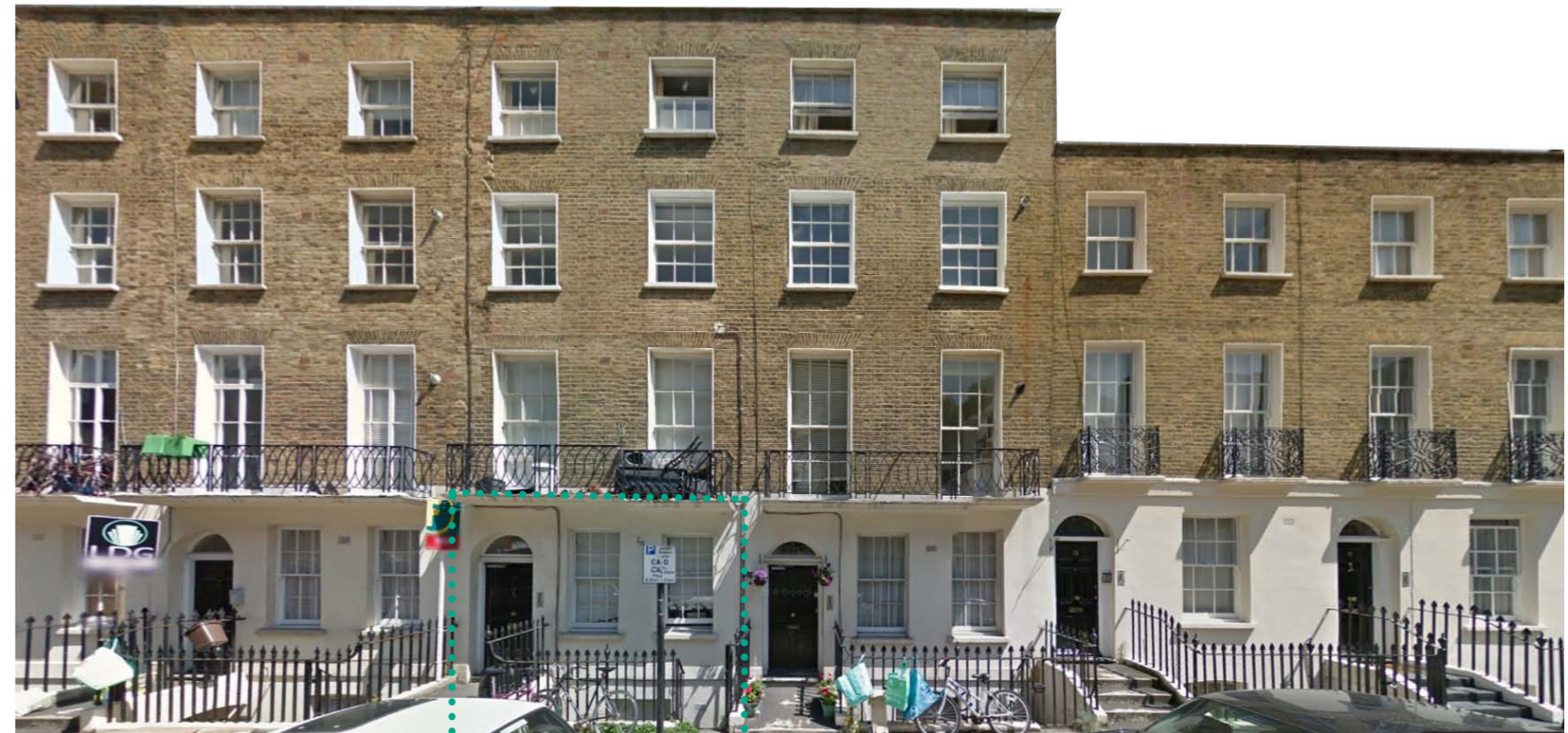
- English Heritage listing

The terrace is mirrored by a similarly listed terrace nos. 4-13 across the road in a symmetrical composition anchored by the late C20th neo-classical stuccowork facade of Leonard Court to the south, where Burton Street culminates. The listing (above) notes the consistent material treatment, fenestration, balconies and railings which characterise the street elevations of the terrace, together with the endurance of some fine original details. The overall effect of these features is to create a uniform row of front facades, preserved in their original aspect, which serve as a unique heritage asset contributing significantly to the character of the borough. This asset should rightly be cherished and protected.

The list entry does not however make any reference to the rear elevation of the terrace which is of a far more informal character. White-painted stucco is consistently employed at ground floor and basement level, with garden walls in brick. Each property includes a similar basement/lower ground floor annex in brick. The rear elevation of no. 27 shows evidence of extensive re-facing and repair, while the annex (containing a bathroom) is painted in white.

Many of the roofs of the lower ground annexes are used as informal terraces. Railings and fencing are in a variety of materials. While many of the neighbouring gardens feature grass and planting, the rear of no. 27a is paved, and includes concrete steps down to basement level and up to the roof of the rear annex.

On the whole however the rear elevation communicates the private function of the terrace as a collection of individual homes. Its heritage significance is far less substantial than the uniform public face of the front facade.



Front facades along Cloudesley Road

no. 27a
Burton Street



Rear elevation and terrace



Neighbouring rear terraces

In the listed context of Burton Street, there is a recent example of a rear extension. Across the road from 27a Burton Street, planning consent was granted for a two-storey glazed rear extension and internal alterations in 2002. This extension spans the full width between the pre-existing rear annex and the garden wall, resulting in a full-width two storey mass to the rear of the principal block. In contrast, our proposals for 27a are half-width at two storeys, full width at lower ground level, and are designed to significantly improve the thermal performance of the existing structure.

Elsewhere in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, there is precedent for rear extensions to grade II-listed Georgian properties. At 81 Guilford Street, planning permission was granted in 2014 for a scheme which included change of use from institutional to residential (4 no. flats), alterations to the internal configuration and rear elevation, and a two-storey rear extension projecting some 8 metres into the rear garden with a fully glazed conservatory space at ground floor level. Our proposed extension for 27a Burton Street is more modest in scale. Unlike the Guilford Street scheme, our Burton Street proposal will not require the total demolition of the existing rear toilet block, but will retain much of the existing structure.

Our previous application for a two-storey rear extension (2015/0893/P and 2015/1240/L) was withdrawn on 08/04/15 following consultation with Camden Council planning and conservation officers (please see attached correspondence, Appendix A). We understand that the previous application was unlikely to be supported on the following grounds:

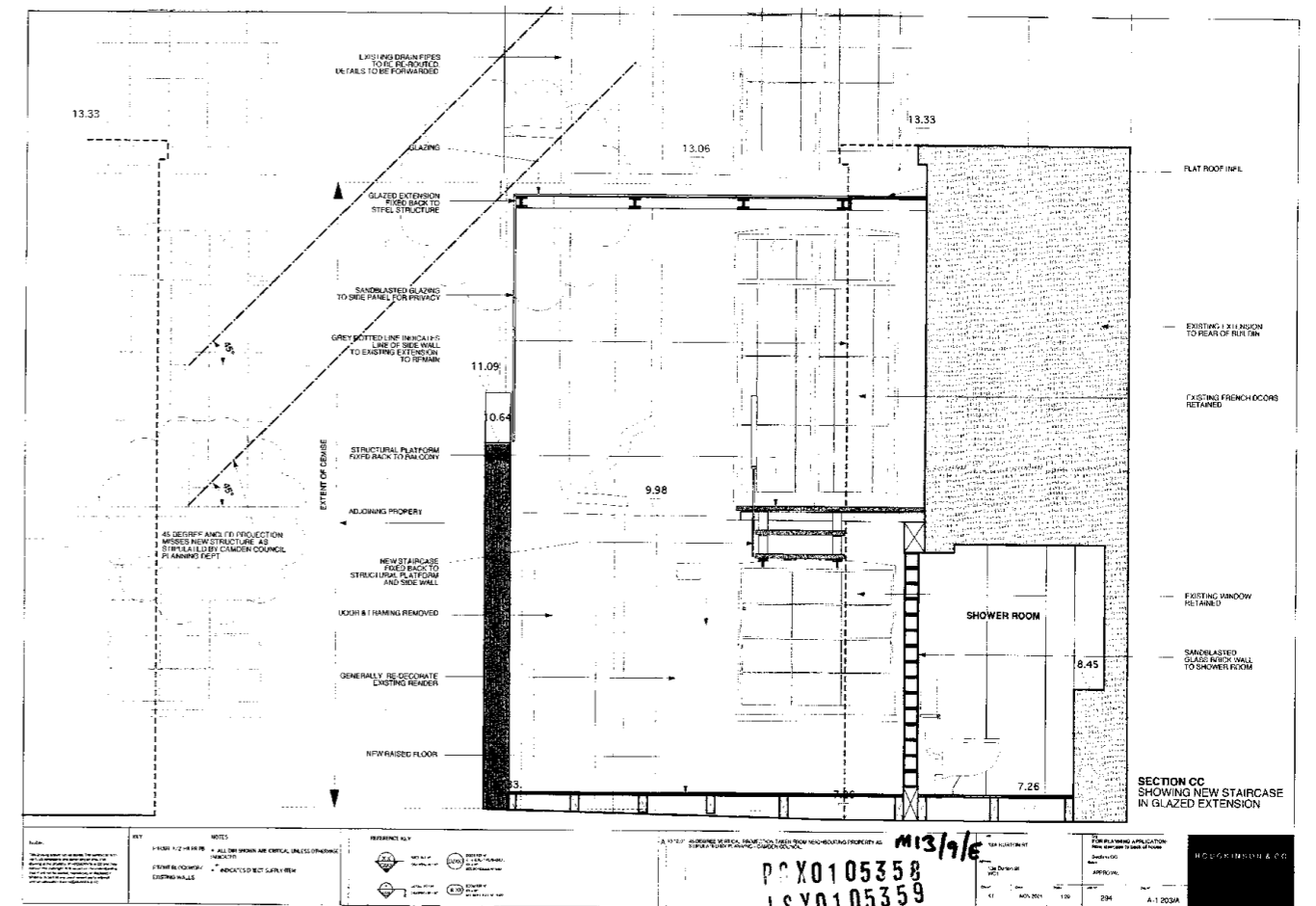
- 1) Scale of the proposal, and impact on the rhythm of solids and voids to the rear elevation of the listed terrace.** This new application responds to this concern by restricting extension to lower ground floor level. By extending to the rear of the existing toilet block in brick, and to the side with a lightweight, unintrusive glass infill, we aim to preserve the rhythm of the existing rear elevation.
- 2) Loss of existing fabric to rear elevation.** Disturbance to the rear facade is limited to the extension of 1 no. existing window opening at ground floor level and demolition of the rear wall to the existing (non-original) toilet block.
- 3) Material treatment and fenestration.** Where the previous scheme was in glazed brick, the current application is to be in stock brick to match the existing. Windows are proposed in painted timber, double-glazed to achieve improved thermal performance.
- 4) Impact of terrace on neighbours' amenity.** Please find attached a statutory declaration which demonstrates that the flat roof to the existing rear toilet block has been in use as a terrace since at least 2008.

The screenshot shows the Camden Council Planning Explorer interface. It includes navigation links for Accessibility, Cookie & privacy policy, Jobs & Careers, and News. The main content area displays 'Planning applications' with a 'Help Using This Page' section. Below that, it shows 'Details Page for Planning Application - LSX0105359' with the site address '13A BURTON STREET LONDON WC1H9AQ'. The 'Application Progress Summary' section indicates the application was registered on 19-11-2001, with a decision granted on 07-01-2002. The 'Application Details' section lists the application number, site address, and applicant 'ARCHIRONDEL PROPERTIES LTD.'.



Planning consent notice for 13a Burton Street

Aerial view of rear extension to 13a Burton Street



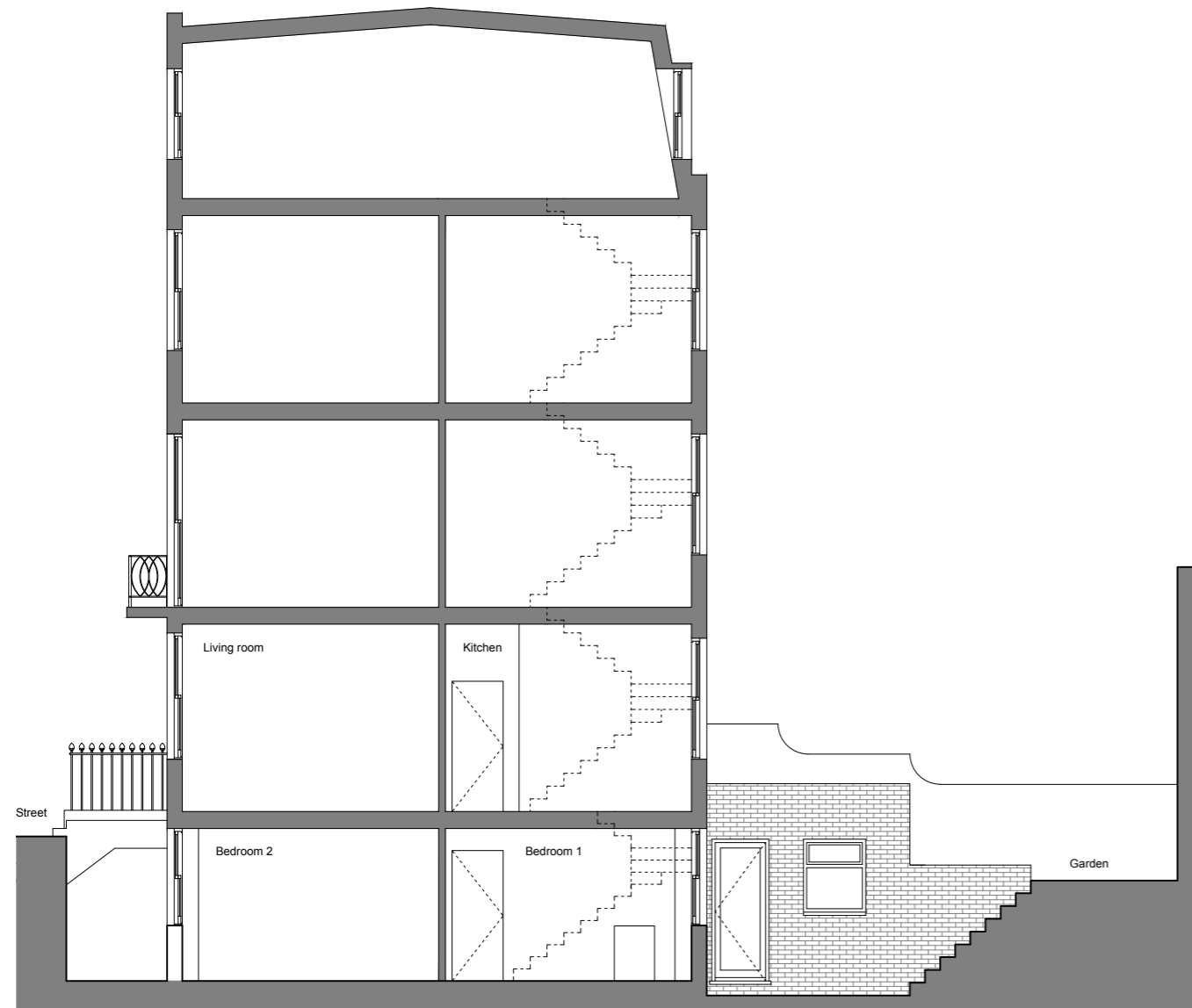
Section through rear extension to 13a Burton Street

EXISTING - LAYOUT

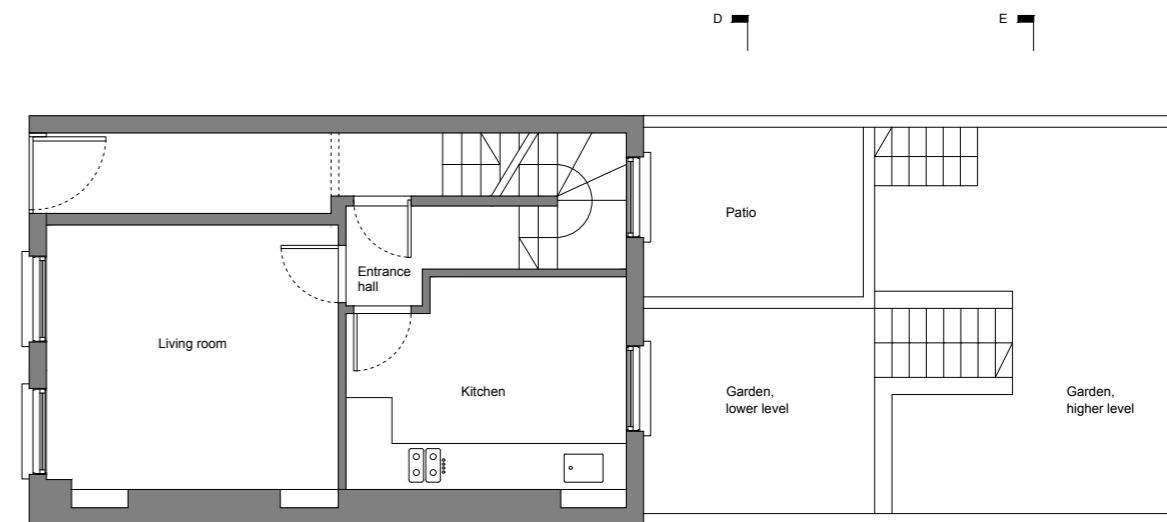
As noted in English Heritage's listing, the internal configuration is not as original, but results from conversion of the original townhouse into flats during the 1980's.

No. 27a is accessed via an entrance hall shared with the upper storeys. The ground floor incorporates a living room and kitchen, while the basement/lower ground floor includes two bedrooms. The only WC/bathroom is housed in a half-width rear extension to lower ground/basement level. The rear garden is accessed from basement/lower ground level, with a concrete stairway giving access to an upper paved portion. A further open-tread concrete stair gives access to the roof of the rear toilet block, which is currently used as an informal terrace.

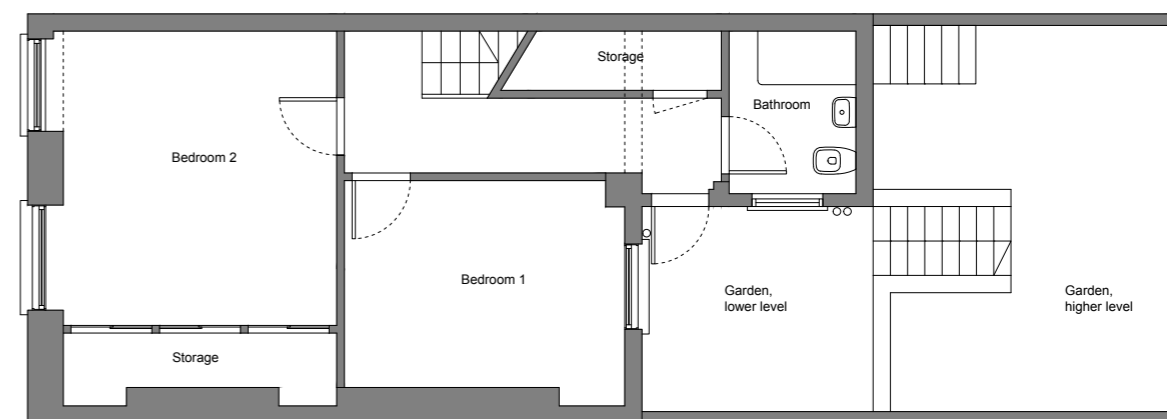
There is currently no WC at entry level (ground floor), while the small basement bathroom is unsuitable for a small family. The kitchen does not allow sufficient space for a family to sit and enjoy an evening meal together. The sunken portion of the rear garden is under-used, and appears to be too heavily overshadowed to support significant planting.



Section AA



Ground floor plan



Basement plan

PROPOSED - LAYOUT



Interventions are conceived to eliminate the need for alterations to more historically significant parts of the listed building, ie. front elevation, existing alcoves and chimney breasts. Structural alterations are limited to the rear of the (non-original) toilet block and ca. 1 sqm of existing brickwork below a lower ground floor window to the rear facade. Alterations to non-original internal partitions and fabric are kept to a bare minimum.

The extension to the rear of the toilet block and lightweight glass infill are conceived to respect the existing rhythm of solid and void at lower ground level, which is consistent across the listed terrace.

The design for 27a Burton Street has two primary aims:

A. improve existing accommodation to provide suitable bathroom, dining and amenity spaces for a small family.

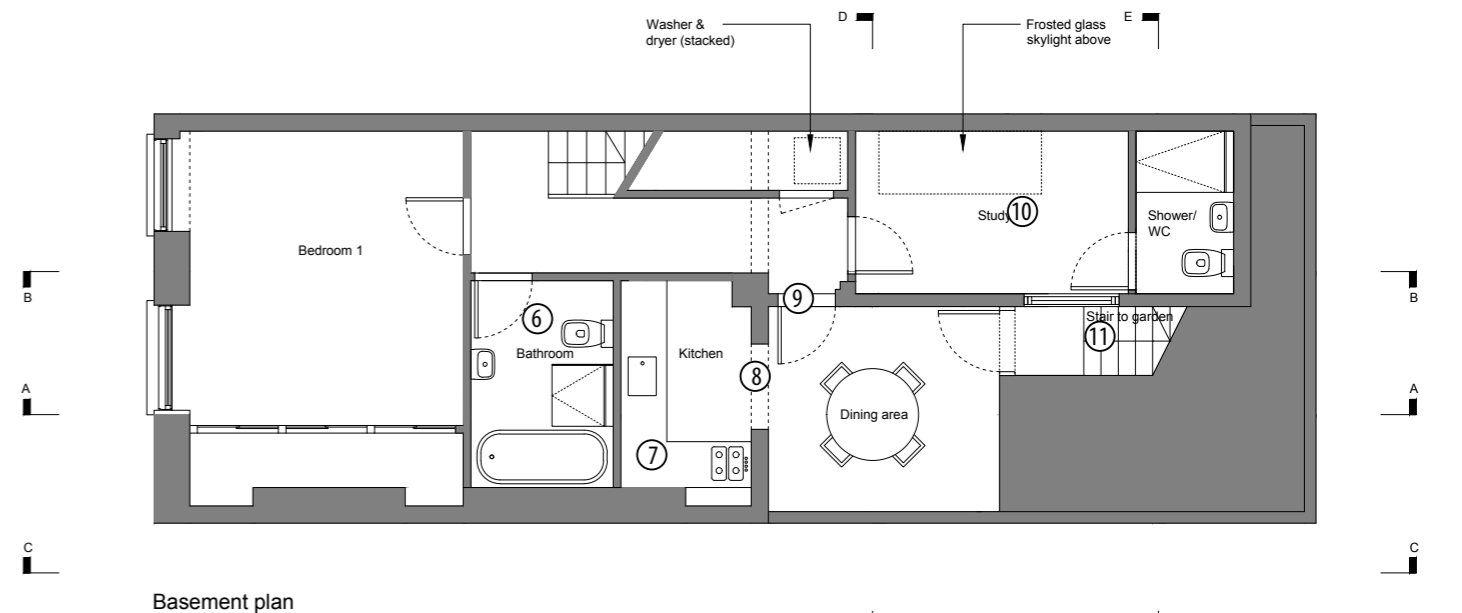
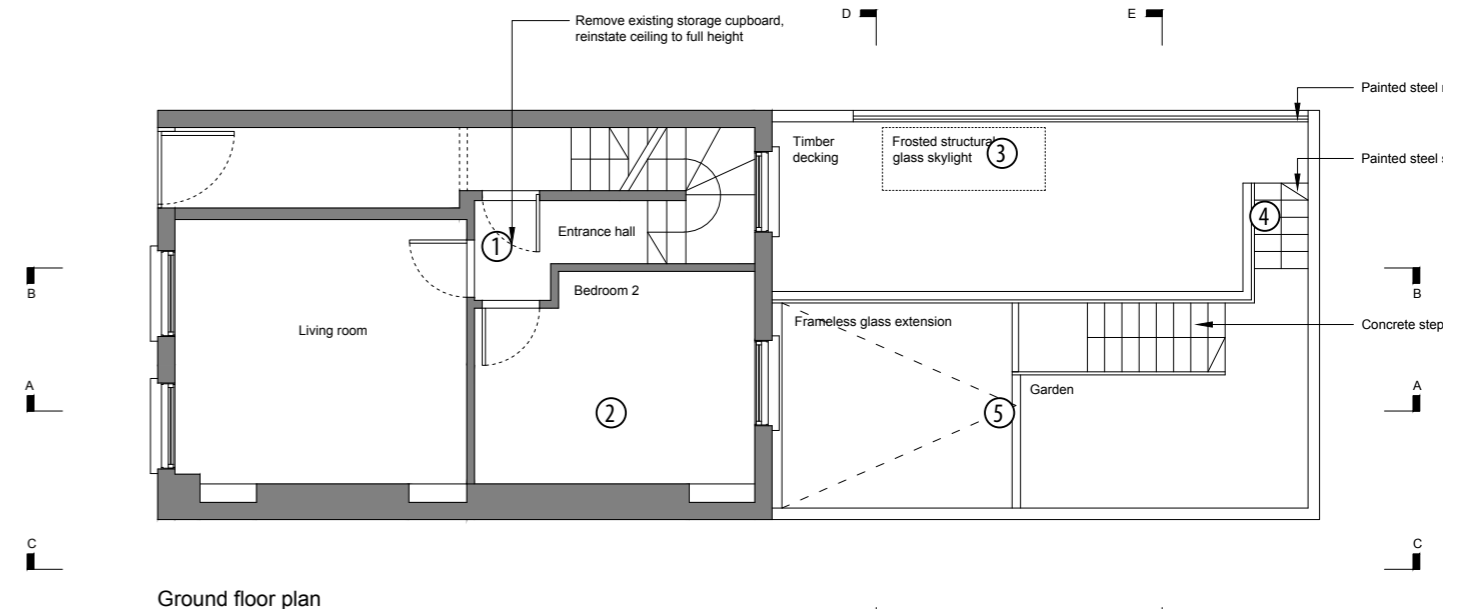
B. provide space for residents to work from home.

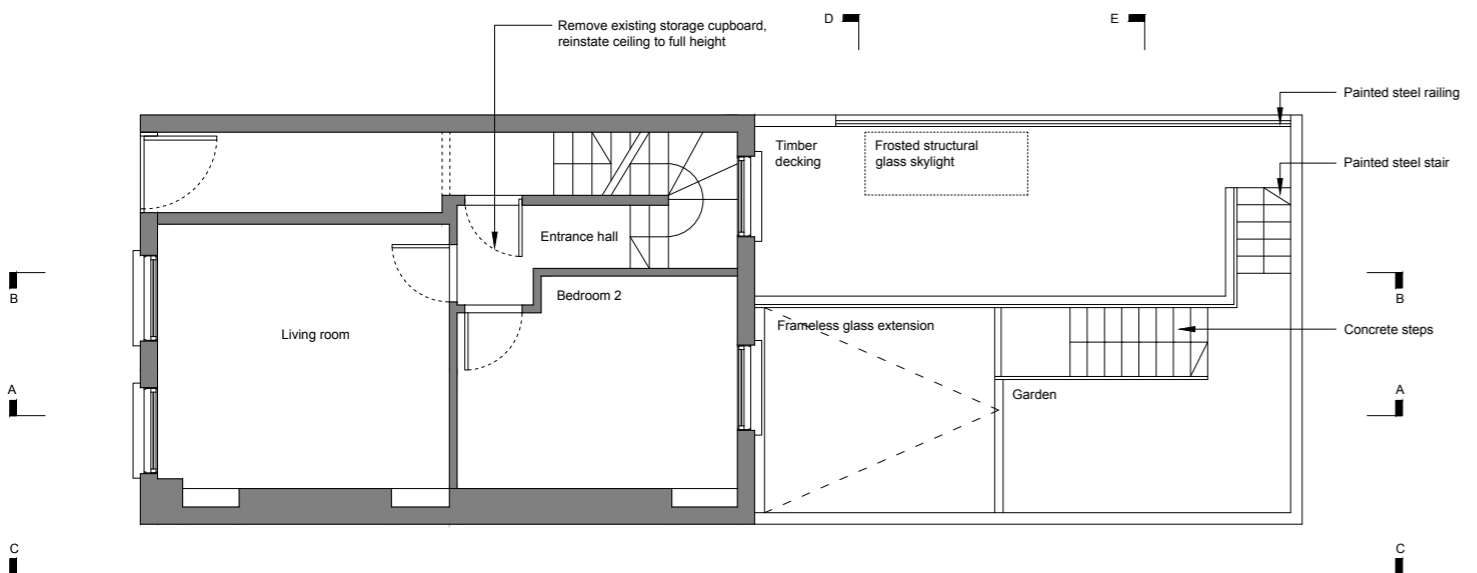
The following alterations are proposed (from front to back, bottom to top) and referenced to in the adjacent proposed plans:

1. remove existing high level storage above entranceway, reinstate ceiling in plasterboard
2. strip out existing kitchen units and tiling, re-plaster to provide ground floor bedroom.
3. form new timber decking to roof of existing and proposed extensions, insert frosted structural glass roof light.
4. form new painted steel stairs and railing to roof terrace.
5. form new infill extension in frameless structural glass between existing rear toilet block and party wall on top of existing retaining wall.
6. form new partition to lower ground floor bedroom to create new bathroom.
7. create new kitchen to lower ground floor.
8. extend existing window opening to lower ground floor down to floor level to create open doorway between new kitchen and glazed extension
9. remove existing external door to rear toilet block, replace with internal door and frame to match existing elsewhere. Infill existing window to rear toilet block.
10. demolish rear wall to existing toilet block and extend to rear to create study room and new WC/shower room.
11. remove existing concrete stair, form new concrete stair with painted and landing between glazed infill and rear patio.

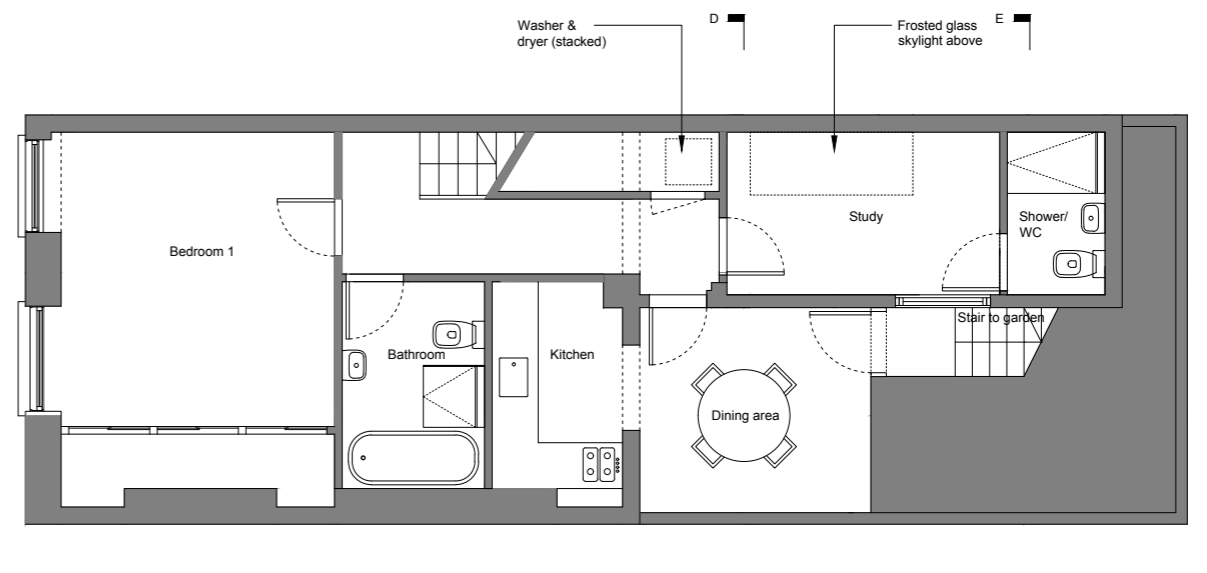


Existing lower ground floor window to be removed, opening enlarged to floor level.

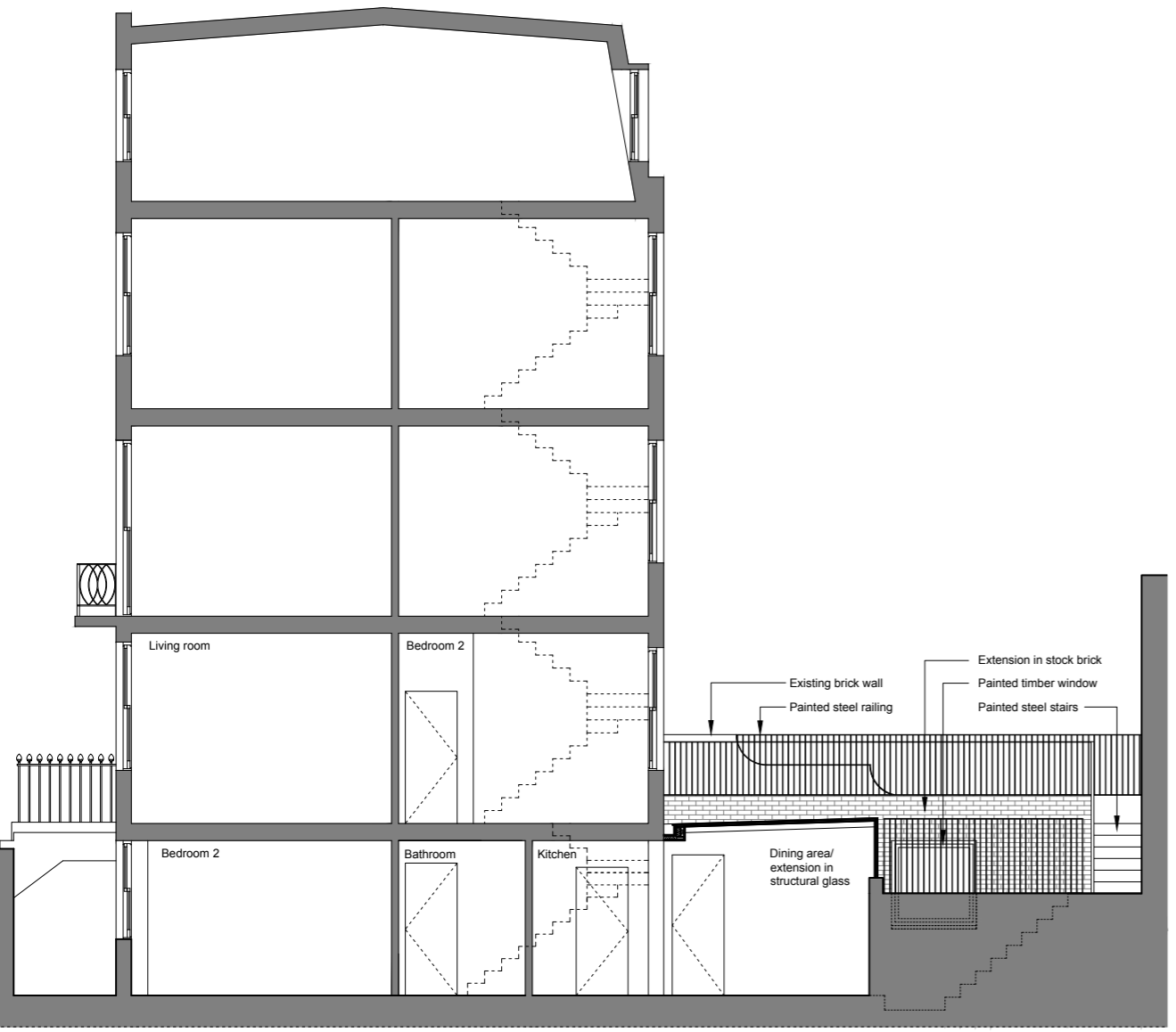




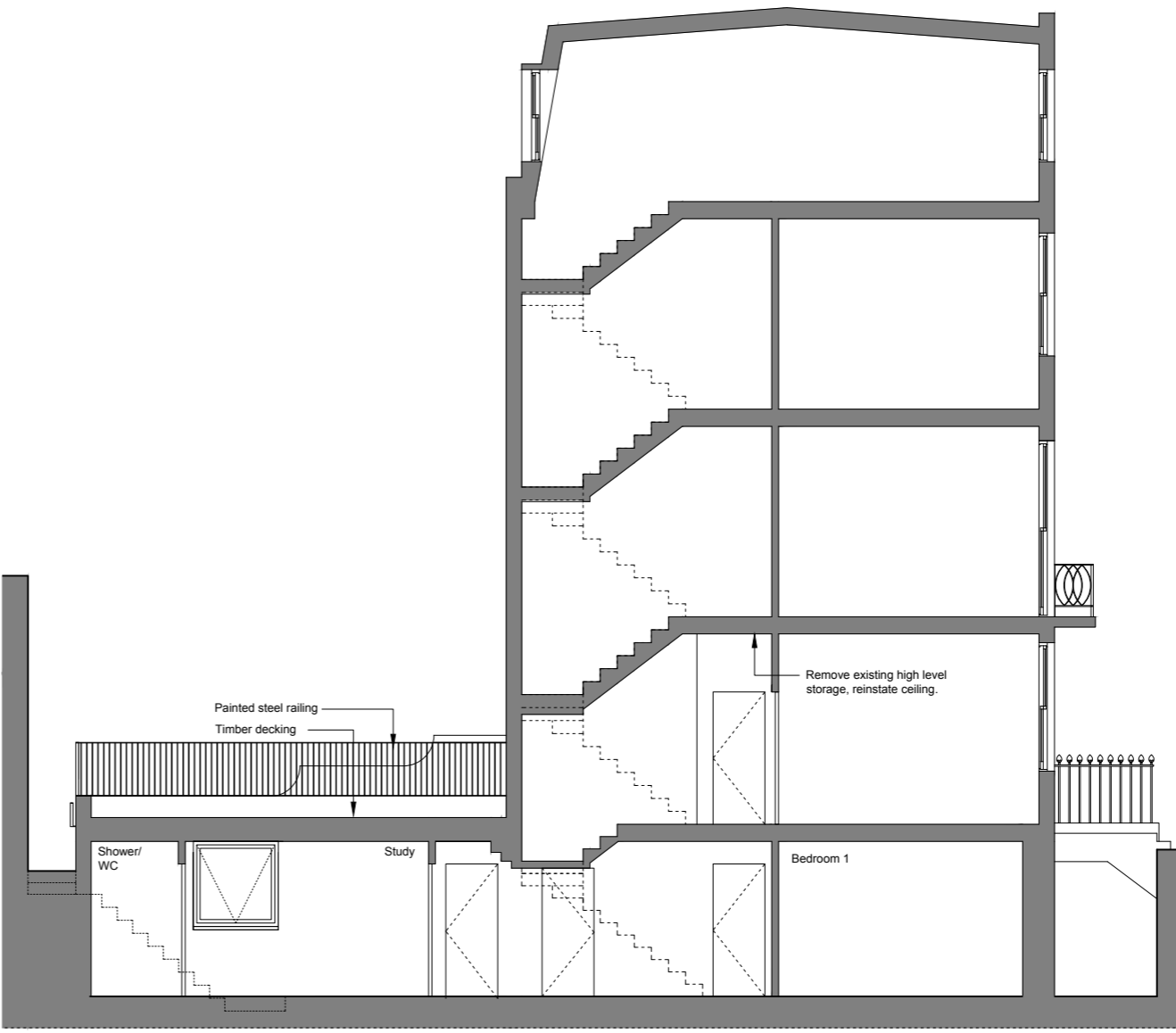
Ground floor plan



Basement plan



Section AA



Section BB

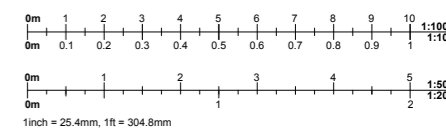


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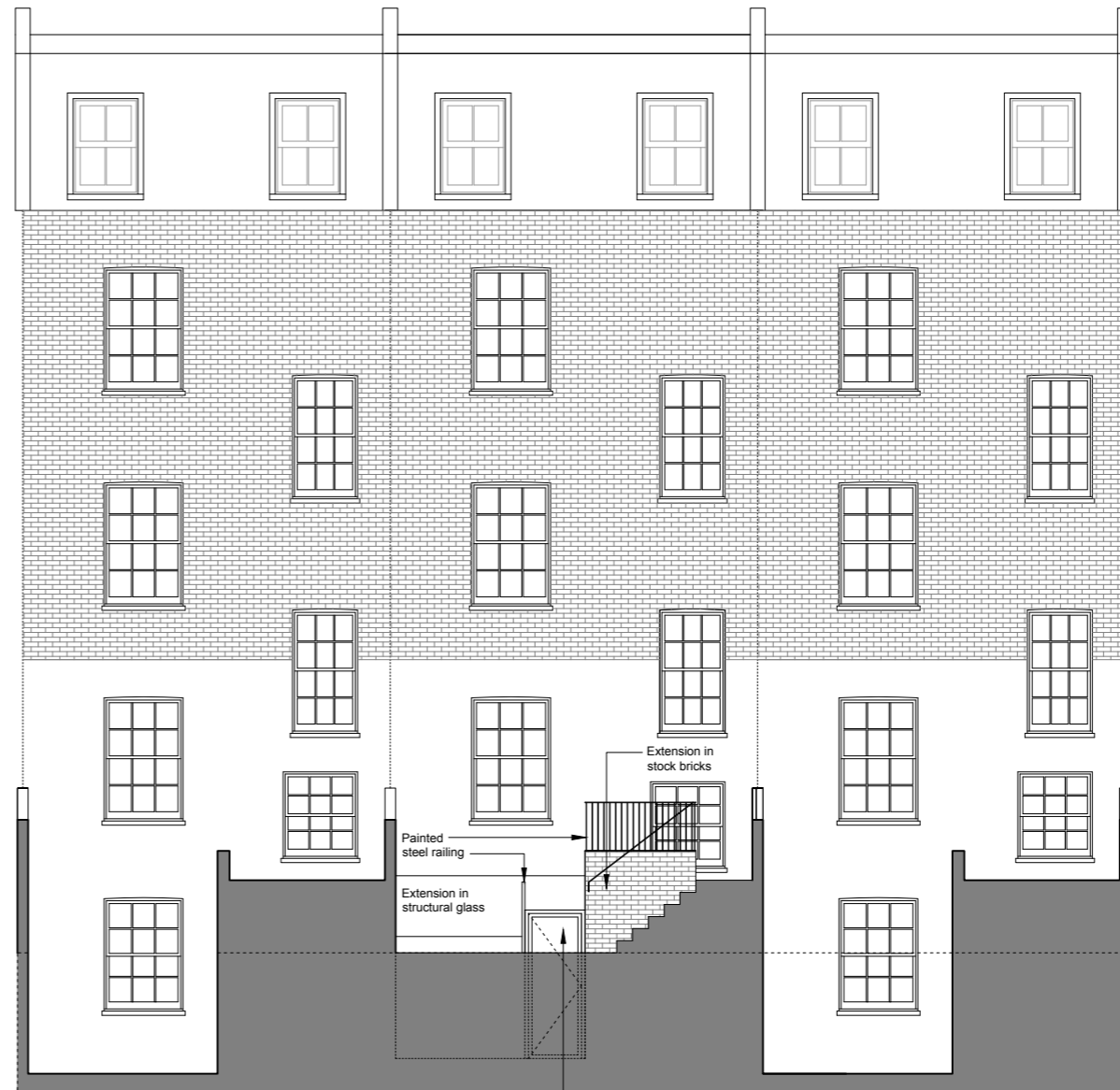
28 05 15	Rev. F	Planning, listed building & freeholder consent.
12 05 15	Rev. E	Client amendment.
12 05 15	Rev. D	Client amendment.
08 05 15	Rev. C	Client amendment.
12 02 15	Rev. B	Planning permission & listed building consent.
15 01 19	Rev. A	Client amendment

Project Name	27a Burton Street		
Project Number	067		
Drawing Name	Proposed plans, elevation & section		
Drawing Number	004	Revision	F
Scale	1:50	Date	12 01 15
Drawing Status	Planning		





Section DD



Elevation EE



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28 05 15	Rev. C	Planning, listed building & freeholder consent.
08 05 15	Rev. B	Client amendment.
12 02 15	Rev. A	Planning permission & listed building consent.

Project Name **27a Burton Street**

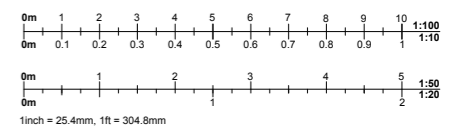
Project Number **067**

Drawing Name **Proposed Sections CC & DD**

Drawing Number	005	Revision	C
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Scale **1:50** Date **12 01 15**

Drawing Status **Planning**



INTERNAL FEATURES

The interior of the property is devoid of any original interior architectural details, such as cornicing, skirting boards or rails. While skirting boards and rails are present in ground floor and lower ground floor corridors, these date from the 1980's conversion of the original house into flats. New internal doors and frames will match the existing, while chimney breasts will be left intact.

GLASS EXTENSION

The glass extension sits inwards from the rear elevation of the existing extension in plan and its roofline is kept below the roofline of the existing buildings on either side.

A minimal frameless glazing system ensures that the features and materiality of the existing building remain visible from the outside. The ground floor sash window is to be opened up to floor level to provide a communicating doorway between the new kitchen and dining area. This arrangement ensures that the glass extension does not compete with the rear elevation of the existing building.

The glass roof slopes back towards the existing building where a minimal lead box gutter with concealed internal drainage services the roof. Sloping the roof backwards allows a minimal and unobtrusive joint between glass roof and glass facade

along the leading edge.

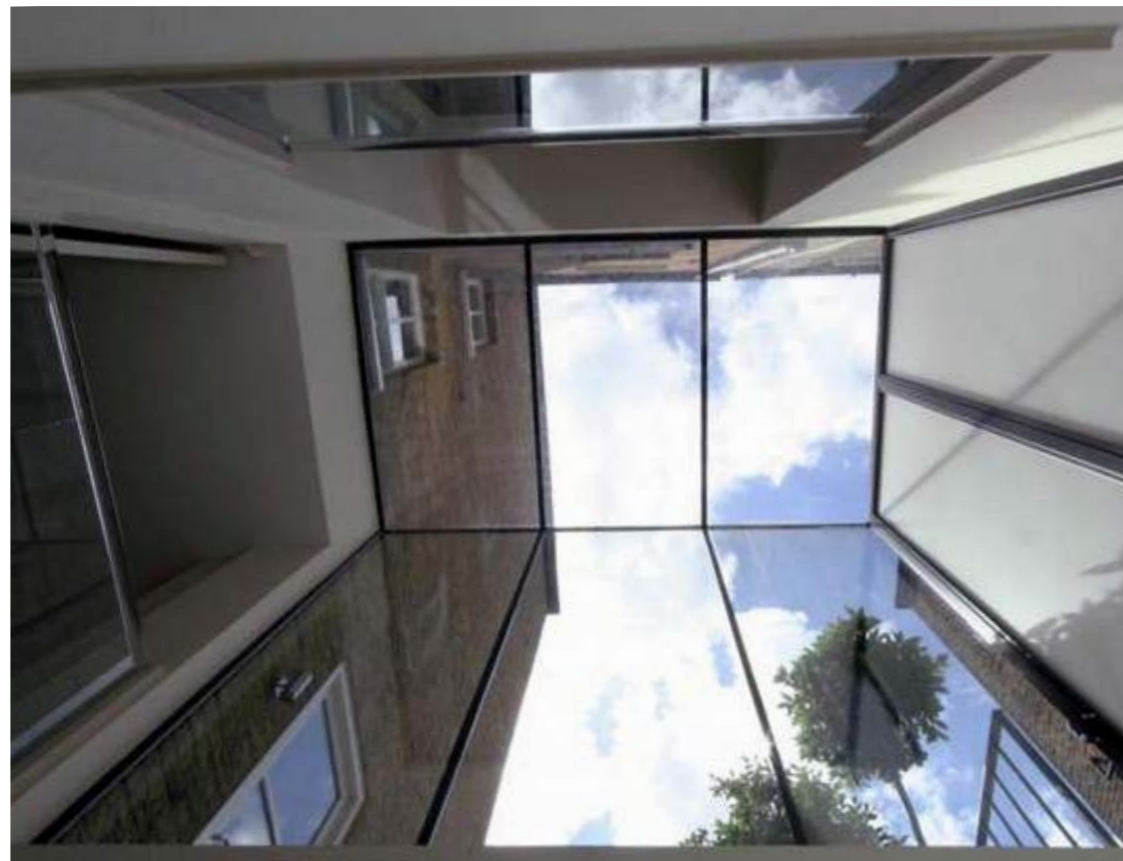
The architectural detail has been carefully conceived in collaboration with a specialist glazing contractor as it is critical to achieving the desired minimal appearance when built.

BASEMENT

We are proposing a cavity drainage system to walls and floors in the basement. A Delta [or equivalent] cavity drainage system is mechanically fixed to the walls and sealed with a horizontal drainage system laid onto the existing floor slab.

A series of integrated sub-membrane drains ensure that any water penetrating the structure can drain away without affecting interior spaces. The cavity drain system is appropriate for waterproofing in historic buildings because it is:

- a) reversible and
- b) allows walls to breathe rather than trapping moisture.



Example of a minimal glass box extension



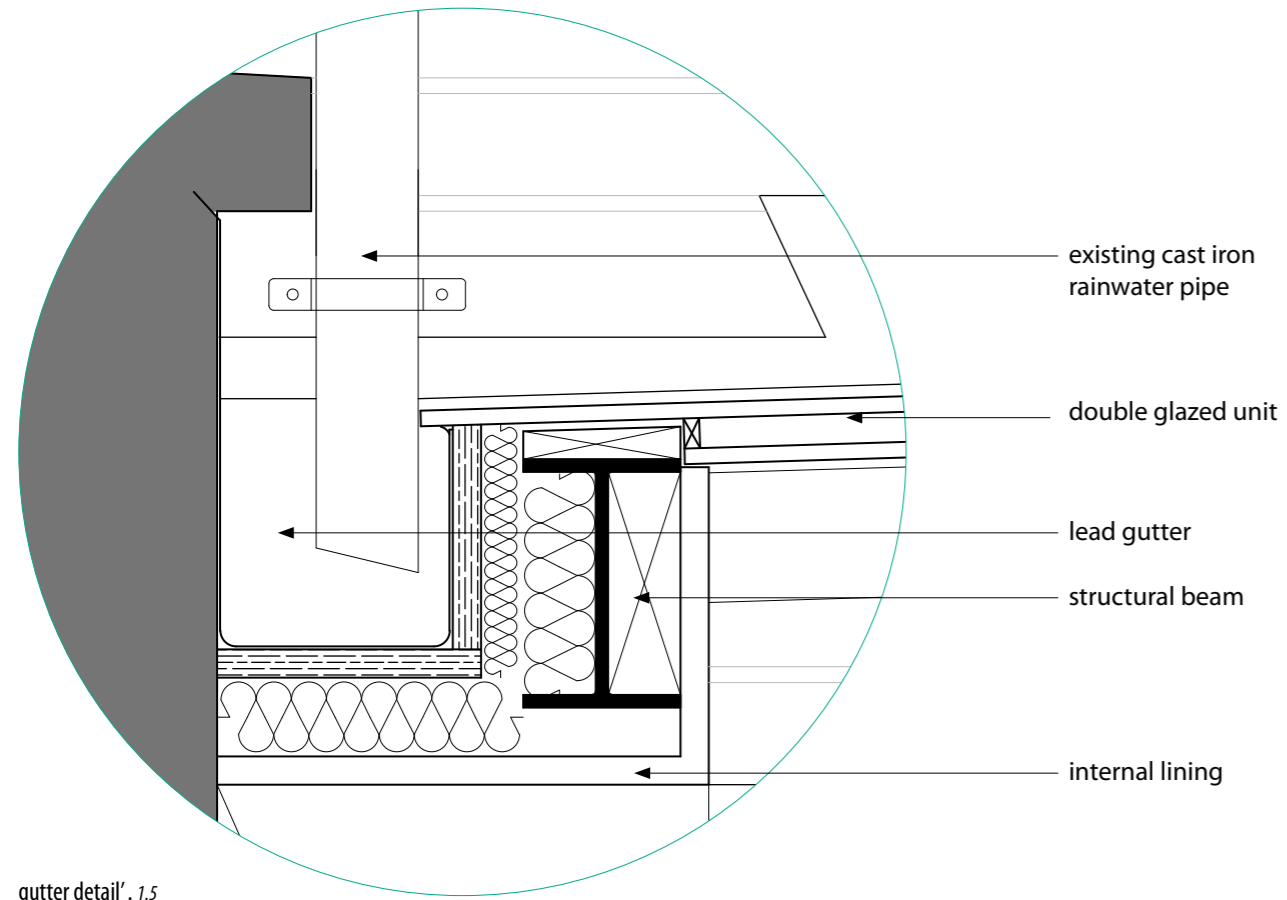
Existing basement shower room



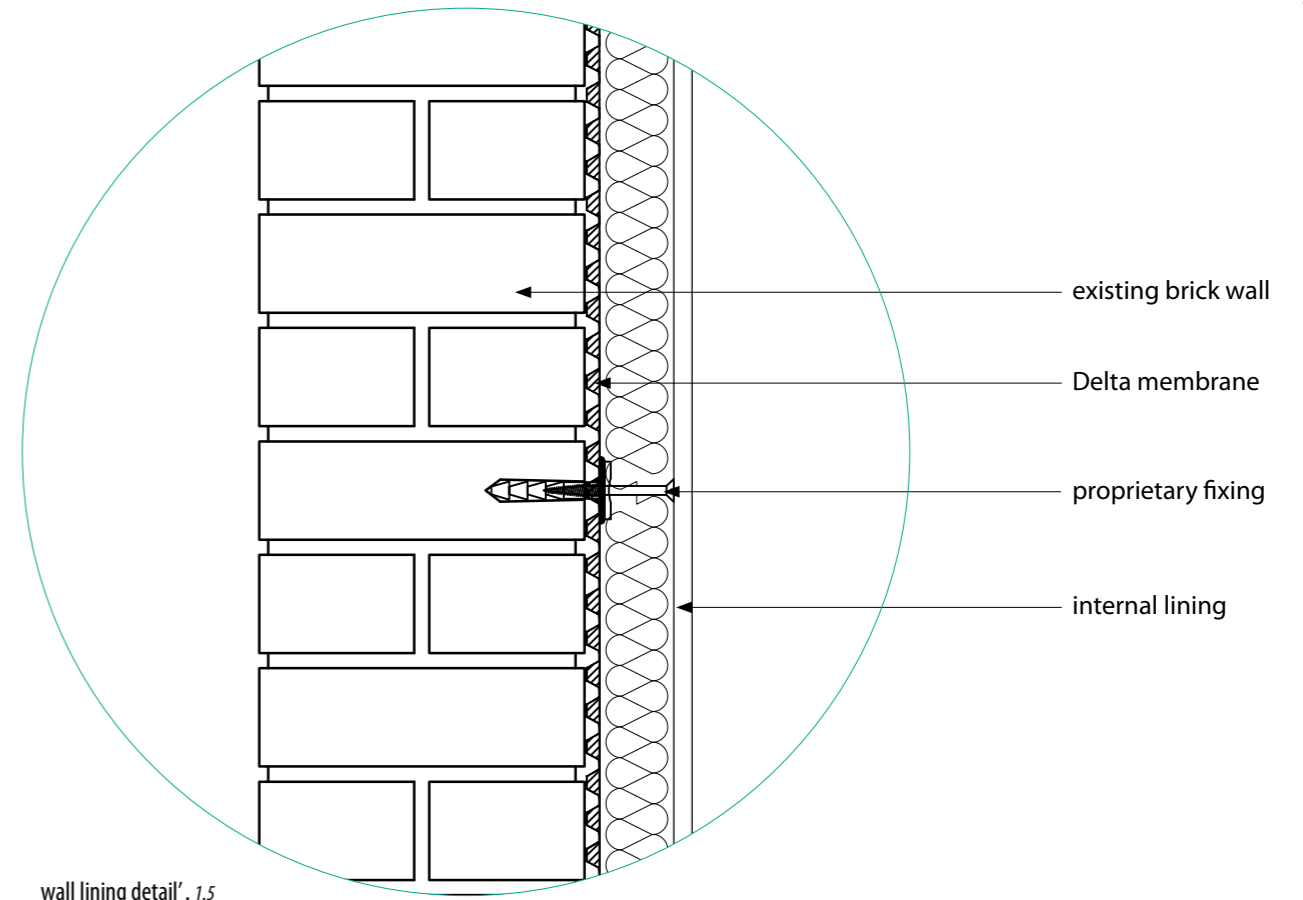
Existing basement corridor



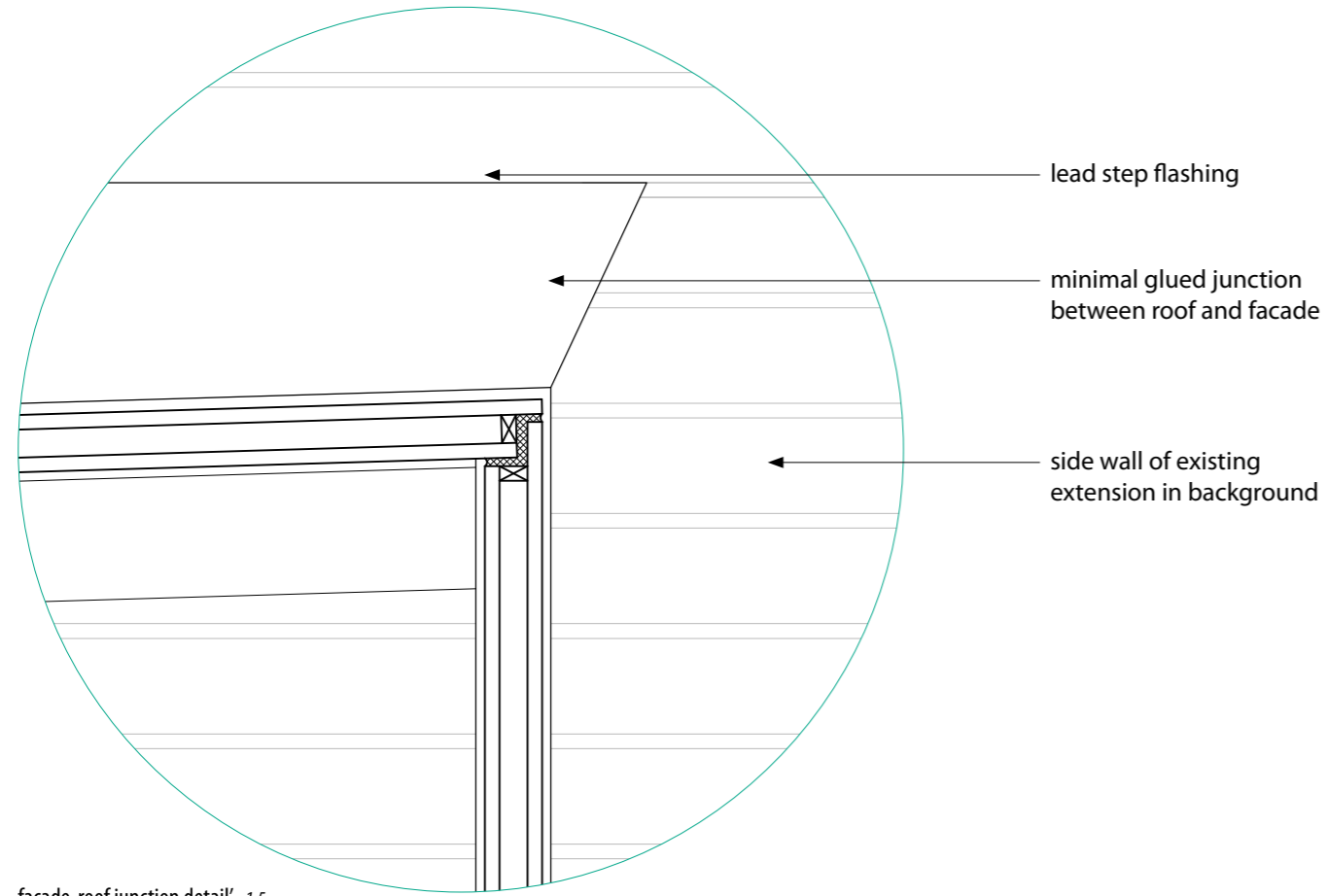
Close-up image of cavity drainage system to be laid to floors and walls and concealed behind internal lining.



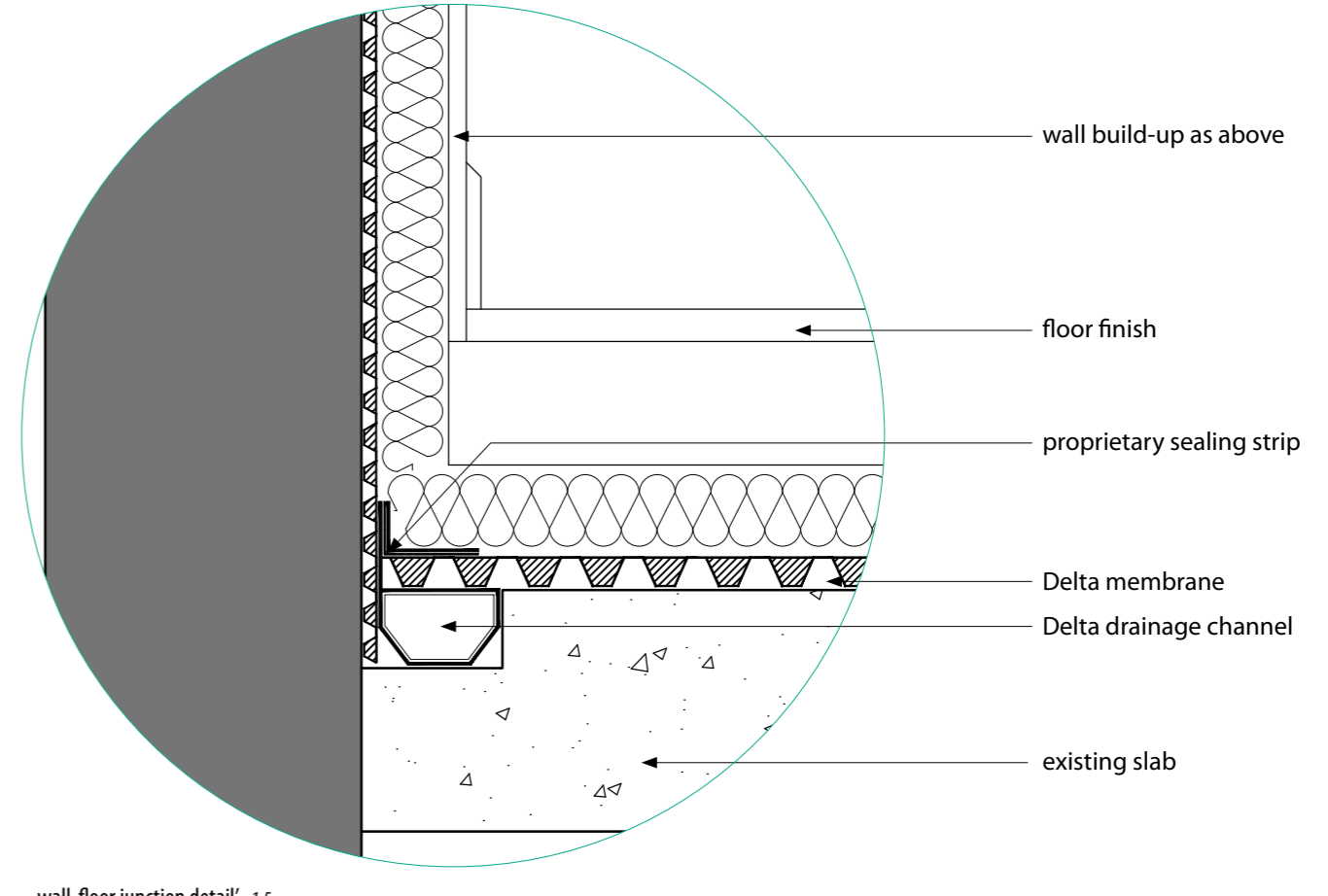
gutter detail' . 1.5



wall lining detail' . 1.5



facade-roof junction detail' . 1.5



wall-floor junction detail' . 1.5

	Project	27a Burton Street	Revision	A
	Drawing	008	Date	10/02/14
	Title	Proposed details	Scale	1:5 @ A3

The material palette has been selected in order to respect and preserve the architectural quality of the original building. High quality materials are chosen according to two criteria:

1. Where internal alterations are proposed to existing building elements, ie. insertion/adjustment of new internal partition walls and doors, we propose matching the existing material palette like for like in order to blend seamlessly with the original appearance of the property. With regard to the brick extension to the rear of the toilet block, we propose the use of stock bricks to match the existing, together with painted timber double-glazed windows to respect the materiality of original fenestration while achieving improved thermal performance.

2. Where new building elements are introduced (i.e. the new glass infill) the material palette is designed to be clearly modern and minimal, distinct from historic building but visually and physically inobtrusive. The aim is not to compete or blur the boundary with the original architecture but to enhance it with the addition of high quality independent elements.

'Respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation.'

- NPPF 2012, Policy 7 Requiring Good Design

'A harmonious contrast with the existing property and surroundings may be appropriate for some new work to distinguish it from the existing building'

- Camden Planning Guidance 1 - Design p.24

'Wherever possible you should use materials that complement the colour and texture of the materials in the existing building . . . In historic areas traditional materials such as brick, stone, timber and render will usually be the most appropriate complement to the existing historic fabric'

- Camden Planning Guidance 1 - Design p.25

existing - rear
(to be retained)



London stock + repairs



white render

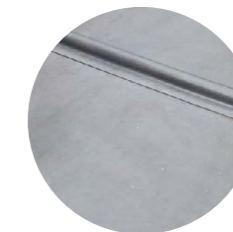


painted timber windows

proposed



London stock



lead flashing



painted timber double-glazed windows



painted metal railings to new stair



timber decking



double glazed units + invisible frame

The positioning of sockets, plugs and lighting switches will be arranged to comply with Part M of the Building Regulations.

'Where facilities and amenities are conveniently located, appropriate and accessible to all, sustainability is enhanced.' - 2.21 Islington's Development Management Policies

A cohesive sustainability strategy underpins the design of the new extension. It considers the environmental performance of building elements not only in the short term but across their whole lifespan. Specific environmental provisions include the following:

- New light fittings will include LED light bulbs (the most advanced form of low energy lighting).
- The new floor will be insulated with 120mm thick polyurethane foam insulation.
- All new walls will be dry-lined with 70mm thick polyurethane foam-backed plasterboard to achieve a U-value of 0.18 W/m²k, in excess of Building Regulation requirements.
- The new glazing will be argon filled double glazing with excellent thermal performance exceeding the minimum 1.6 W/m²k set by part L1B of the Building Regulations.
- The new heating system for the study and dining room will be a water-based underfloor heating system to ensure even heat distribution and avoid cold spots and draughts.

'We recognise the role that the historic environment can play in reducing the impact of climate change. For example, reusing existing buildings could avoid the material and energy cost of new development. There are many ways to improve the efficiency and environmental impact of historic buildings, for example improving insulation, draught-proofing and integrating new energy-saving and renewable-energy technologies.' - Camden Planning Guidance 1 - Design

M1

Section 8: Accessible switches and socket outlets in the dwelling

OBJECTIVE

8.1 The aim is to assist those people whose reach is limited to use the dwelling more easily by locating wall-mounted switches and socket outlets at suitable heights.

Design considerations

8.2 Switches and socket outlets for lighting and other equipment should be located so that they are easily reachable.

Provisions

8.3 A way of satisfying Requirement M1 would be to provide switches and socket outlets for lighting and other equipment in habitable rooms at appropriate heights between 450mm and 1200mm from finished floor level (see Diagram 29).

Diagram 29 Heights of switches, sockets, etc.

Approved Document M
Access to and use of buildings 65

Extract from Building Regulations Part M